Hauteville heroes* Bohemund's romantic wars with the Turks and Ms captivity started a romantic theme soon widely spread; he is the first of the Prankish knights whose beauty imd valour win the love of Saracen princesses and lead to their release. But the *Ittngue d*oil* was not to be in Italy the fount of a native poetry, epic or lyric, and though the Angevin conquest later revived the traditions of Charlemagne, it was the Sicilian dialect which under Roger II, *s grandson Frederick became the mother of Italian song, *

The language of North France, which was the native speech of Richard of Capua and the Hautevilles, maintained its supremacy in the court of Palermo under the Norman kings. Thus Paleandus relates that the Queen's brother (Henry the aforesaid Roderic) being by certain of the barons why he admitted the superiority of the Chancellor Stephen in the administration! gave two reasons: one, that he lacked sufficient energy for the office of Chancellor; and the oncl, that he was ignorant of the French which was essential in the Curia. * So closely bound up with arms, chivalry* and the feudal spirit, the French language survived long in the

court and the castles of the Kidlkut kingdom; undttr

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vol. iv,f p, 474, t'Us Fur lMtt*mun<l «m«l tin? Twrktoh priiw«j« IMW
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[f] "Qu» umximti nn,*oa»ri«, *twt In* curia." Dt4 Rfe» vol.
p, 366,